

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are active in the present application; Claim 1 is amended by the present amendment; and Claims 3-10 stand withdrawn in response to a previous restriction requirement.

Amendments to FIG. 30 and Claim 1 find support in the specification as originally filed, at least at page 21, line 18, to page 24, line 17. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,801,611 to Van Loenen et al. (herein “Van Loenen”).

Regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claim 1 and FIG. 3O are amended in response to comments in the Office Action. In particular, FIG. 3O is amended to more clearly show that a coil 22 has a wire that includes a base electrode layer (e.g., base electrode layer 34) and plural plating layers (e.g., wire layers 28), as described in the specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Van Loenen, with respect to amended Claim 1.

Claim 1 is amended to more clearly indicate that a high density inductor includes, in part, a coil having a wire formed by piling up a base electrode layer and plural plating layers in this order along a thickness direction of the wire.

Thus, an inductor according to the present invention may advantageously maintain a narrow gap between conductor tracks and include plural plating layers piled on a base electrode layer in that order along a thickness direction of the wire.

Applicant respectfully submits that Van Loenen fails to teach or suggest each feature of amended independent Claim 1. For example, Van Loenen fails to teach or suggest a high density inductor having a coil with a wire formed by piling, in order, a base electrode layer and plural plating layers along a thickness direction of the wire. At column 4, lines 45-58, Van Loenen indicates that, in a process of forming conductor tracks,

the entire conductor pattern on the two principal surfaces 1a, 1b is electrolytically reinforced, the thickness of the conductor tracks then being increase, *the distances between the conductor tracks being decreased* and copper being deposited in the openings formed in the substrate. (emphasis added)

That is, Van Loenen describes an inductive device in which a thickness of a conductor in a width direction may be built up, which is different than the claimed invention in which piling of a base electrode and plating layers is done along a thickness direction of the wire in the conductor. Further, Van Loenen fails to teach or suggest a base electrode and plural plating layers built up in that order. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Van Loenen fails to teach or suggest a high density inductor having a coil that has “a wire formed by piling up a base electrode layer and a plurality of plating layers in this order along a thickness direction of the wire,” as recited in independent Claim 1.

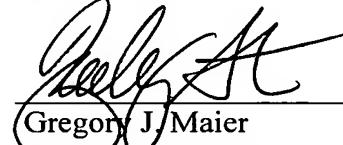
Furthermore, Applicant notes that if the technique of Van Loenen is applied in a situation where the gaps between conductor tracks are desired to be narrow, neighboring conductor tracks would disadvantageously contact with each other. Therefore, according to Van Loenen it would not be possible to achieve the benefits of the claimed invention, such as obtaining a conductor track having a large thickness and a narrow gap between neighboring conductors.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom are allowable.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3O. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3O, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3O.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet